


Planning and Development Department Update

DATE: October 28th, 2011
TO: Mayor Setti D. Warren
FROM: Candace Havens, Director of Planning and Development 
RE: Friday Report
CC: Board of Aldermen
Robert Rooney, Chief Operating Officer

This weekly report is intended to keep you informed of current development proposals and other noteworthy planning and development activities as follows:

Monday 10/31/11	
Tuesday 11/1/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Land Use Committee Working Session, 7:00 p.m., Room 222• Newton Housing Partnership - Project Review Subcommittee, 7:45 a.m., Room 202
Wednesday 11/2/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fair Housing Committee, 8:00 a.m., Room 202
Thursday 11/3/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Farm Commission, 7:00 p.m., Room 222• The Zoning Reform Group, 7:00 p.m., Newton Senior Center, 345 Walnut Street• Newtonville Historic District Commission, cancelled
Friday 11/4/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Service Providers' Network Meeting – Emergence Resources for Families and Individuals in Need, 8:30 a.m., Carroll Center for the Blind – Technology Center, 770 Centre Street

- **Halloween Window Painting and the “Spirit of Newtonville:”** On **Saturday, October 29th**, Newton children will add some color and flair to businesses in several of our villages by participating in the 12th annual Halloween Window Painting Contest sponsored by Newton Community Pride. In Newtonville, the event will take on an even more festive theme as local businesses will be providing music, sweet treats, discounts, and raffle prizes as part of the special “Spirit of Newtonville” event from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Visit our local shops, restaurants, and services on a fall Saturday! **Contact Amanda Stout at 617.796.1127 or astout@newtonma.gov.**
- **Land Use Committee Working Session:** The Committee will meet on **Tuesday, November 1st** at 7:00 p.m. in Room 222. The agenda includes the following: **#213-11** Galina Slezinger/David T. Zussman, Tr. petition for a special permit to expand an existing restaurant to allow a portion of the restaurant to be used as a function room on certain evenings and to waive the parking requirements associated with a restaurant greater than 50 seats at **54-57 Union Street**. **Contact Alexandra Ananth at 617.796.1121 or aananth@newtonma.gov.**
- **Newton Housing Partnership - Project Review Subcommittee:** The Subcommittee will meet on **Tuesday, November 1st** at 7:45 a.m. in Room 202. The agenda includes a review of **Myrtle Village**, an affordable housing development proposal. Myrtle Village is a proposal to acquire, rehabilitate, and expand two existing homes currently with 3 units total to 7 rental units. According to the proposal all 7 units will be affordable to households earning between 50% - 90% of the Newton area median income. The proponent, Myrtle Village LLC., will be seeking a Comprehensive Permit (40B) as well as \$708,620 in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and \$950,264 in Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds to assist with rehabilitation and new construction/creation of affordable housing. **Contact Robert Muollo at 617.796.1146 or email rmuollo@newtonma.gov.**
- **Fair Housing Committee:** The Committee will meet on **Wednesday, November 2nd** at 8:00 a.m. in Room 202. The agenda includes: Report on meeting with Mayor Warren; Review of proposed architectural access plan; Membership status; Discussion on Affirmative Duty to Further Fair Housing, led by Henry Korman. **Contact Robert Muollo, at 617.796.1146 or rmuollo@newtonma.gov.**

- Zoning Reform Group:** The Group will hold a public meeting on **Thursday, November 3rd**, at 7:00 p.m. at the Newton Senior Center, 345 Walnut Street, Newtonville. The group will present its findings and proposed plan for zoning reform. All are welcome and encouraged to attend, light refreshments will be served. **For more information, see the Zoning Reform Group's webpage** <http://newtonma.gov/Planning/zoning-reform-group.htm>, or contact **Seth Zeren** at **617.796.1145** or szeren@newtonma.gov.
- Newton Farm Commission:** The Commission will meet on **Thursday, November 3rd** at 7:00 p.m. in Room 222. The following items are on the agenda: Update on farm operations; Discussion of Barn Renovation; Review of minutes from the October meeting. **Contact Alexandra Ananth** at **617.796.1121** or aananth@newtonma.gov.
- Service Providers' Network meeting on "Emergency Resources for Families and Individuals in Need"** will be held at 8:30 a.m., **Friday, November 4th**, in the Technology Center, Carroll Center for the Blind, 770 Centre Street, Newton Corner. Information will be presented on the availability of emergency financial assistance, help with rent and utilities, fuel assistance, food pantries, soup kitchen, food stamps (Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program), WIC, holiday food and children's toys, etc. This program will be particularly useful to service providers, but everyone is welcome to attend. **Contact Lowell Haynes** at **617.796.1132** or email lhaynes@newtonma.gov.
- FY11 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs grant submitted to HUD:** The Planning and Development Department submitted an application for federal Continuum of Care funds for the Brookline-Newton-Waltham-Watertown Homelessness Consortium this week. The City of Newton is the lead entity for the Consortium. The application for \$1,441,789 was submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and includes renewal requests for 14 projects totaling \$1,248,657 and one new request for a permanent supportive housing project for 10 chronically homeless individuals for \$193,132. Of the total funds requested, \$790,082 is for Newton-based projects whose applicants include Advocates, Inc., Citizens for Affordable Housing in Newton Development Organization, Inc. and The Second Step. The purpose of the Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Grant Programs is to reduce homelessness by providing housing and supportive services to homeless individuals and families enabling them move to self-sufficiency and permanent housing. For more information about the grant, **contact Trisha Guditz** at **617.796.1156** or tguditz@newtonma.gov.
- "Envisioning West Newton Village and Washington Street":** On Thursday, October 20th, the class of MIT graduate students that is studying West Newton presented their preliminary findings at a well-attended meeting in the Aldermanic Chamber. Their presentation included analysis on land use and zoning, parking and transportation, and economic development. A PDF of the first presentation is available to download on the City website here: <http://www.newtonma.gov/westnewton/>. The students will host a second public meeting to present their final recommendations in early December. **Contact Amanda Stout** at **617.796.1127** or astout@newtonma.gov. The students are still seeking feedback and can be contacted directly at 11.360@mit.edu.
- Community Preservation Committee: Happy 10th Birthday, Newton CPA!**



Come to our first neighborhood birthday party, for **Newton Corner, Nonantum, and Newtonville, 7-9 p.m., Tuesday, November 15th**, in the Newton North High School Film Lecture Hall (enter from the front lobby). **Refreshments provided!** Meet the Community Preservation Committee, ask questions about the program, comment on past projects, and use our interactive maps to share your ideas for future projects.

See www.newtonma.gov/cpa or contact **Alice E. Ingerson, Community Preservation Program Manager** at **617.796.1144** or aingerson@newtonma.gov.

Crafting a new zoning code
A public meeting hosted by the Zoning Reform Group

When: **November 3rd, 7:00 p.m.**
Where: **Newton Senior Center, 245 Walnut Street, Newtonville**

Join the conversation on the future of Newton's Zoning Ordinance and **learn** how the Zoning Ordinance can be made easier to use and **help** better guide Newton's development future

For more information: <http://newtonma.gov/Planning/zoning-reform-group.htm>